



PRESS RELEASE

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CITY TO PAVE RECORD NUMBER OF ALLEYWAYS

MAJOR OPERATIONS PROJECT WILL RESULT IN IMPROVED ALLEYS AND ENHANCED TRASH COLLECTION

INDIANAPOLIS – The Indianapolis Department of Public Works (DPW) will pave approximately 143 alleys in the city's most expansive alley repair project in years.

Center Township area residents have been plagued with deteriorating alleys for years. Complaints have ranged from massive potholes and inferior drainage to completely inaccessible alleyways. These issues will be addressed as the city finalizes plans to begin repaving more than eight miles of the worst alleys in Indianapolis. The project will address alley repairs including drainage, pothole, and paving problems in five near eastside neighborhoods.

“Residents depend on alleys to access their homes and properties. Keeping these routes safe and in good condition is a top infrastructure priority in our neighborhoods,” said Mayor Greg Ballard.

In a strategy similar to Mayor Ballard's plan for expanding crack-sealing work in Indianapolis, engineering division resources were utilized to allow most of the alley repaving and repair work to be contracted to local company Grady Brothers, Inc., the low bidder in the October bidding process. In prior years, alley repair has been solely a function of the city's street maintenance division and has allowed an average repair of only 15 alleys per year. The current strategy will multiply that number by 10 and allow repair and repaving work done by street maintenance crews to be significantly expanded over the next few months.

In addition to immediate benefits to residents, including better and safer access to properties and less wear and tear on residents' vehicles, improving alley conditions will result in more efficient trash collection and less wear on city trash collection vehicles.

“Better, smoother alleys will result in decreased maintenance costs and increased budget savings, and solid waste collection crews will be better able to navigate neighborhoods to pick up trash,” said DPW Director David Sherman.

The city's Solid Waste Division played a major role in the repair plan as Solid Waste teams evaluated alleyways to determine the worst alleys in the city. Funds to finance the initiative will come from the Solid Waste Division budget.

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Paving operations are expected to begin within the month of April. Alleys scheduled for repaving have already been cleared and prepped for construction.

“I’m truly glad to see our inner city community getting this kind of badly needed attention,” said Oasis of Hope Pastor Frank Alexander.

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